

From glowbugs@theporch.com Wed Apr 3 09:10:47 1996
Return-Path: glowbugs@theporch.com
Received: from uro (localhost.theporch.com [127.0.0.1]) by uro.theporch.com
(8.7.5/AUX-3.1.1) with SMTP id JAA18200; Wed, 3 Apr 1996 09:06:44 -0600 (CST)
Date: Wed, 3 Apr 1996 09:06:44 -0600 (CST)
Message-Id: <199604031506.JAA18200@uro.theporch.com>
Errors-To: ws4s@midtenn.net
Reply-To: glowbugs@theporch.com
Originator: glowbugs@theporch.com
Sender: glowbugs@theporch.com
Precedence: bulk
From: glowbugs@theporch.com
To: Multiple recipients of list <glowbugs@theporch.com>
Subject: GLOWBUGS digest 149
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Please send list server requests to listproc@theporch.com
Status: 0

GLOWBUGS Digest 149

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Sweep tube amp stories wanted
by dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
- 2) The original all-bands transmitter
by Jeff Duntemann <jeffd@coriolis.com>
- 3) Re: Sweep tube amp stories wanted
by Jay Coward <jayc@hpmsd2.sj.hp.com>

Date: Tue, 2 Apr 1996 13:29:12 -0800
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
To: glowbugs@theporch.com
Subject: Sweep tube amp stories wanted
Message-ID: <199604022129.NAA26540@netcom5.netcom.com>

I'm looking for people's experiences with sweep tube amps, designs, etc.

Thanx,

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

Date: Tue, 2 Apr 1996 15:28:04 -0700
From: Jeff Duntemann <jeffd@coriolis.com>
To: glowbugs@theporch.com

Subject: The original all-bands transmitter
Message-ID: <199604022228.PAA27678@bob.indirect.com>

>I'm looking for people's experiences with sweep tube amps, designs, etc.

Back in 1975 I got my advanced and inherited a Central Electronics 10B SSB exciter from a friend of mine. It put out about 5W or so from its 6AG7 final, and nobody heard me. So I scanned the magazine piles and hit on the Shoebox II Linear, in an article in CQ Magazine from 1969, I think. Don't recall the author. (W2EEZ?) It was four 6HF5 sweep tubes with about 850V on the plates.

It was the first linear I ever tried to build, and I'm sure I made some mistakes, but I never really tamed it. It was the original all-bands transmitter...all bands at once. Actually, I think the problem was rampaging VHF parasitics, which seemed to ignore the little chokes by the plate caps.

Sweep tubes have very high power gain, and a reputation for going wild at the slightest provocation. They weren't designed for continuous service (they're pulse amplifiers, properly) and their envelopes are thin as those of power tubes go. Overheat them and the glass will deform under atmospheric pressure. Sometimes they "suck in" and die.

I've had better luck in lower power applications using older sweep tubes like the 6BQ6. Lew McCoy published a couple of CW transmitters using that tube, back in the 60s. I built one and it put out a very clean 20W or so without pushing. The late-era color TV sweep tubes like the 6HF5 and 6KD6 are supposedly hotter and much more cantankerous. I've also heard it's tougher to get a matched set.

My recommendation is, when possible, use 6146Bs.

--73--

--JD--

Date: Tue, 2 Apr 96 15:15:35 PST
From: Jay Coward <jayc@hpmsd2.sj.hp.com>
To: jayc@hpmsd2.sj.hp.com
Cc: glowbugs@theporch.com
Subject: Re: Sweep tube amp stories wanted
Message-ID: <9604022315.AA12455@hpmsd2.sj.hp.com>

*> *> I'm looking for people's experiences with sweep tube amps, designs, etc.
*> *> Thanx,
*> *> 73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com
*> Hi Dave,
*> Do you remember the old marine band radios? I still have my Dad's
*> Apelco xtal set.Used 4 or 5 6DQ6's in parallel for about 150 watts.
*> I also have a Hartman that uses only one sweep tube for around 20 w.
*> Would it be a criminal act to modify an old boat radio for ham use
*> on 160m?
*> 73 Jay KE6PPF

--

NOTIFY PILOT BEFORE UNLOCKING AUTOTUNE

HEWLETT John Jay Coward 39201 Cherry Street MS NK10
PACKARD jayc@hpmsd2.sj.hp.com Newark, California 94560
Communications Components Division 510-505-5614 Fax 510-505-5560

End of GLOWBUGS Digest 149
